## PASSING WAR CLOUDS.

Ex-President Castelar's Brilliant Treatise on the War Feeling of Europe.

Anxiety of the Nations Concerning the Turkish Question.

THE CHIEF CAUSES.

Germany and France Battling for Supremacy and Power.

Victor Emmanuel Living in Peace with Garibaldi and the Pope.

Panis, March 23, 1876.

To the Editor of the Herald:—
Our ancient Europe seems to have been destined by fite never to enjoy complete peace, and to live always between the regrets and sorrows of past wars and the anxieties of new and terrible conflicts to come. Every moment there is awakened in the mind the idea that some great conflicts of passion or interest will result in an appeal to force, and that that force may destroy hations and civilization as things which Nature rejects, suspending the unique struggle for progress, the struggle for labor.

Torrible panies depress the mind and disturb commercial transactions. Movements of squadrons, notes of governments, speeches of severeigns, all contain threats of bloodshed, or, at least, all appear the fore-runners of imminent battles. You cannot meet a business man who does not declaim on the situation and predict that by next spring we shall again encounter the terrible spectre of death, of our cities half destroyed and our fields desolated and deserted. He will tell you that we have here a huge funeral pile, and that it only needs some hidden hand to apply the torch of the incendiary in order to reduce the whole body of our old Continent to endors. And yet the

CAUSES FOR WAR IN EUROPE to-day should be less than they have been for the last twenty years. Evil disappears, and with it disappears that passion for heroism. Italy, which was the Euro pean apple of discord, has been converted into a free and independent nation. The foreigner no longer acts the conqueror at Rome, nor does he hold the city. Austria no longer mounts guard at St. Mark's place. The tricolor proudly floats above the towers of Mantus and Verona, and the hymn of national independence is spiring in Italy transpire also in Hungary. That proud race of Magyars, which could sustain the most gigantic war in one of the most awful of crises, a race ever ready for combats and sacrifices, has been emancipated, even placing itself now under the guardianship of its old oppressors. And that which applies to Italy and Hungary applies equally to Germany. The rivalries between Austria and Prussia, flooded the German soil with blood, ended in favor of Prussia. The phantasms of the revolutionists of 1848, the unity of Germany and the expulsion o Austria led to this in a great measure. Metternich, founder of the Holy Alliance, is dead and for gotten, while Andrassy, a disciple of Kossuth, directs the affairs of Austria. The Catholic nations of the south readtly submit to the totelage of the which is proved by the resistance offered by the King of Bavaria to his Parliament, and the quelling of clerical opposition to the recent retorms. Those continuous convulsions in Poland have ceased for a while, cess, and next because France, which has so frequently aroused the marty: nation, has had to ally herself to Rustion of ponderous influence, which decided in other days to draw the sword to protect the half moon that glitters above Holy Sophia, and for the Sultan who dwe the seraglios of the Bosphorus, has resigned berseif to a further diminution of the Turkish Empire for the purpose of augmenting her power and influence in the Land of Egypt. In France even that fighting dynasty has disappeared, forged into the most high temple of republican wars. She has been satiated with the idea of revolutionary disasters; images of a conquering and liberty through armies of slaves, threatening all other pressing their own with the burden of military glories, ost costly and disastrous to nations. It is quite cer nor Poland by her misjortunes, are to day causes for war, and the Empire of the most bellices traditions the Empire of Bonaparte-has disappeared from

There has been a germ of discord bred which may soon-and which most assuredly will-give rise to much fighting within a certain time, Indeed there exists a cause for uncasiness as to a disturbance almost as disastrous as the last affair, to wit, the rivalry be tween France and Germany. This rivalry has been the necessary consequence of the greater part of the evils which have agitated European civilization during the past twenty years, the miscarriage of that French Repices. With the irradiation peculiar to French ideas, with the resonance peculiar to French utterances, Germany became suddenly awakened from her lethargy, and, while seeking to recover her lost liberties had her eyes opened to the idea much more necessary to her -to the idea of unity. If she could have real fixed that grand thought, if the hatred of the tyrante and the inexperience of the people had not given rise to such tremendous difficulties, German unity would have been realized, the same as Italian unity, with the a holy alliance of nations united as in the sense of a universal bretherhood, which would have assured the solidarity of each and the common But Prance again entrenched herself behind a military empire, and from that moment two countries and one set up a threatening institution in response to a threatening institution reared by the other, until finally the two nations were brought face to face on the field of battle. The French Empire vactilated in its policy with respect to Germany in the same way that it had vacillated in treating with Italy. Having called that nation to the exercise of independence, it opposed, fought against it in the work essential to that independence, that of unity, opposed her by the veto against the most necessary of all Italian Rome. And having sustained Prussia against Austria preme moment she turned against Prussia, leading to ar, necessarily, fatally. And that war was no more terrible for the disasters it caused than for the rivalry which it created between two of the most powerful ce tres of Europe. The German democracy, notwith standing the exquisite tact and the sensible policy that prevalled during that very grave period of their trans formation, determined to place themselves under that dictator who should be capable of assuring them, above all things, the return of their dismembered possessions and their autonomy in Europe, which had been completely broken. Thus, in the face of the general secu-

PRENCH AND GERVAN RIVALRY.

in favor of peace, the whole world debated upon, and then announced the beginning of war. One rais that Bagland was fortifying herself and organizing her militest between the Oriennists and republicans might have been made the object for immediate war, and, again, the rapid reorganization of the French army; but we now know that the clerical ogitation has calmed in part, that the Oriennists and republicans might have been made the object for immediate war, and, again, the rapid reorganization of the French army; but we now know that the clerical ogitation has calmed in part, that the Oriennists and republicans have arrived at an understanding in the notes of Count Andrassy, which they averred were affirmed and corroborated by long and inaccurate newspaper articles concerning the sudden order to arm toxicated with her triumpha, Germany must find a motive for lialy. The Pontificate and Ghibellines out of love for Italy. The Pontificate and Ghibellines out of love for Italy. The Pontificate and the Empire unite and orget their quarries in proposing to serve Italy, the monarchy and the tribune, deposing part of their zeal, this and that part of their zeal, this and the Empire and the Empire and the Crical again, the Empire and the Tribune of the peoples like a miracle of liberty, which they are republicans have arrived at an understanding.

\*\*Record of the Prench army;\*

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that Denmark had ordered 200,000 uniforms, and that Prussia was accumulating innumerable supplies. And all the symptoms of 1870 are perceptible now, like a quantity of diamonds launched upon the market in-tended only to frighten holders into selling, and thus tend to force the calamities and catastrophes conse-quent on these universal conflicts. We givry in our civilization; we regard the achievements of the past as the supreme victories of the human mind, as the shin-ing crown of history, and yet when we turn to the future, from the lofty panacle of our pride, we see but advancing armies massed as though in an immense battle field; incendiaries that blaze and threaten to immedate the mittons; piles of dead bodies that impregnate the air with death in the laboratory of life; and the survivors, more unfortunate than the dead, subjected to every upstart warlike avenger, himdishing an exterminating sword, offer to the manes of their sepulchrod fathers the questionable satisfaction of a bloody vengeance. When we see all these things we imagine that society is but a continuation of notare; that within her bosom alone matter exists and that the alone coverne all force, that mechanical laws. guide and direct, and not the laws of the mind; that we are condemned to behold rival nations in history as species of natural enemies all over the earth, hunting each other, persecuting each other in one great struggle without truce, without limit, that one may build itself up by the extermination of the other building upon the recking remains, upon the scattered bones, upon the fattel intentines even, because, like the ancient gods of the heathen, modern grandeur demands and requires the barbarous holocaust of human sacrifice in this interminable reign of fatality and evil It is, therefore, necessary to turn our eyes toward the principles of justice and to establish convince ourselves that after all human reason must hasten the events that will lead to a complete realization of the common well-being. It is necessary for us always to have faith in the ideal, that we may sincerely hope it will be fulfilled. But now as in other times, while afflictions and torments every-where abound, while the gallows and the axe work stlently in the towers of feudalism, human reason goes on steadily weakening them and destroying them, dis-possessing them by reality, after having thrust them

RHASON CONDEMNS BLIND FORCE, proposes the substitution of international arbitration or the procedures of war, and will sooner or later end the struggle of man against man, and the combat of nation against nation, as it has ended the coutest of house against house and only against cuy, by founding a full, complete regimen of right and justice in a perpetual peace. We are destined, doubtless, to see many more wars. The humanitarian spirit of the eighteenth century, that spirit which produced such optimist theorable men as Washington and Franklin, has been lost The rule of ideas, which has given us so much hope, has succeeded the apology for force made by such doseriers from Hegelian idealism as Dr. Strausa. For the sentiment and ideal of progress they have substituted the sentiment and idea of a painful pessimism. on and expansion of life, shrough so many historical successes and well-planned revolutions, is equivalent to a return to barbarism. By a species of materialistic mysticism they have inculcated a con-tempt for the precious gifts of existence, in order that Looking up on a clear, calm night at the immeuse expanse of stars, whose scintillating light awakens the dea, they say that there, in those foci of created fire, there cannot, there ought not, to exist that irriston, that burlesque, that bitterness which we call life. They have chanted nothing more sad or terrible than these confusing theogonies. They have thought it preferable not to partake of our ills, as if all were not compensated by the marvellons speciacle of nature, by the harmonious scales, of art, by the vision of truth in science, by the self-satisfaction that is derived from the disinterested fulfilment of duty in our relations with the world. And by materialism they have arrived elevate the conqueror and the executioner to the throne of the kings, to idolize force, predicting with the sacrifice of our rights the immolation of our souls, promis-ing us in this world eternal war and in the world to come perennial nonentity. Thus are we treated by utopians, by dreamers, by blunderers whose great desire is to suppress all ideas of a principle of justice and the regulating of social life by human rights. EVOLUTION SUCCEEDS REVOLUTION.

When we consider the broad series of human suc-

Science precedes reality, and precedes it at a wi tance, but sooner or later reality obeys science. The right of estate bogins by combating the right unisal, and ends by obeying it, no matter how distant it may be. The precent is a perpetual transition between the future and the past. New organisms accrue as much in society as in nature to those pre-existing promote a spiritual transformation a philosophical transformation is necessitated, and it may be said that it requires a statesman to realize it. A keen English savant has said, with true mathematical exactness whoever preserves to society its ancient institutions realizable is like he who should take from the ar phibious animal the organs with which he respires in which he may breathe in the air." Thus the English savant consoles bimself with the fact that British statesmen neither respond to modern science nor obey purely scientific conceptions with that deep reflection consistent with their ability, and that the disproportion manifested between the intellectual and positive state of society brings irreparable evils on the country. We and entered upon a period of evolutions. Universal arma ment combined with parliamentary regimen will not empletely extirpate wars, but will undoubtedly dimin ish the causes of these tremendous conflicts. If the Frauco-German war had been discussed in a sovereign assembly instead of an imperial chamber it is certain that that terrible declaration would have been avoided which has resulted in so much mistoriume. If legisla tors and sovereigns had to compet their own sous in common with the sons of others to take all the chances of war in the field, they would deliberate most care estly before shedding the blood of their offspring By those transactions of the past and those that beheld at the present we are able to say that the period for wars has not passed; but also that we have commenced the period of labor.

IS WAR IMPOSSIBLE? But amid these general reflections I have omitted to xamine it the numerous rumors of war in the coming spring have any real foundation. Passing over reck The gravest peril is in the avalry betwee France and Germany, and this rivalry has diminished considerably. The French wisely keep to themselves and devote themselves to the improvement of their home institutions, expelling those old revolutionary propagandas by ideas, and those imperialist propagan as by the arms that were the origin of their glo misfortunes, as Russia did after Sebastopol and Austria after Sadowa. They present to-day a more focund example of a people governed in peace and liberty by themselves than the octentatious apostles of nncient providential missions. Even Germany is not enchanted with war. The absolute, which has dominated over the intellectual from the appearance o Kant until the death of Hegel, has been curbed in a very great measure, from which it has been concluded that it is a thing without material strength in society and the universe. We feel that peace may turn to a rule of mind very similar to the reign of ancient Greece and ancient Italy, and much more powerful by its which resulted from Germany's victory have been re garded much as the king of ancient mythology, who had the permicious gift of turning to gold everything he touched with his hands. Indeed the excitement con-corning this spring has been greatly calmed. Granted, that the clorical laws on religious instruction in France have created their own elerical agitation, that the contest between the Orleanists and republicans might have been made the object for immediate war, and, again, the rapid reorganization of the French army; but we now know that the ciercal ogitation but we now know that the clerical agitation has calmed in part, that the Oriennists and republicans have arrived at an understanding, and that the reform of the French army, though very indutary and progressive, appears not to have been either so rapid or so extensive as had been imagined

in that internal reform of the army and of the navy, in instruction, which France undertakes only in the full exercise of her sovereignty. During the extended crisis preceding the last war Germany complained with but poor reason that the policy pursued by France was calculated to prevent the development of her resources. By what right did she interfere in the internal affairs of France? What pretext could she offer for this unjustifiable aggression? It was at variance with the lofty political intelligence of Bismarck and tended to confound him with volgar statesmen when in reality he is entilled to be considered as a statesmen of the first order, and led to the belief that he had decided to hanch into European conflicts with all the precipitation and blindness of an Olivier. His high intelligence, however, answers more than any other force, for the peace of Europe at this supreme moment.

THE SMOULDERING EASTERN QUESTION.

There is but one cause for war, a considerable ca the Eastern question. But the Eastern question may not lead to immediate conflict. The two nations most still unless they have recently changed their ownica wisely abstained from any view having an extreme of exaggerated character. England does not maintain, as in other times, even to the point of the sword, the in-violable integrity of the Turkish Empire; neither does Russia act with such promptness as she was wont to do in the holy city of Constantine. Each has had her arder moderated through the cooling influence o experience. England knows that in order to opp Russia she requires to regain the Western support she lost completely through her neglect to protest, in any way, against the consummation of the unhappy dis-memberment of Franca Russia, on her part, knows she most complete her great system of railroads and the armament of the numerous contingent of her reserves At this moment, by tacit consent, the nations of the north as well as those of the interior of Europe tant note of that Austrian Empire which was so much denounced when she cast the shade of death over Germany and Italy. But at this shook of Eastern Europe with Europe of the West, a snock that might occasion many awful disasters.
Geography has an immense influence in politics; and
geography imposes upon Austria and the Turks various
limited intersections between the two peoples and their
multiple populations. Again, the Austro-Hungarian Empire exercises its authority over an immense mult tude of Slavs, just as Turkey does Slavs of Bohomis, Galicia, Croatia and the whole of ancient Illyria. There is, moreover, another reason which clearly

GIVES AUSTRIA A LEADING VOICE in the question of the East. German influence is more in depriving Austria of her Germanic char acter with the Sias nations and in the Slav territories by appering her German regions, and Russia has an the strength of the Turks. In order to secure forever a decisive preponderance and authority over her own race, whose diverse tribes believe in the oft promised Russian Messianism, which is sufficient, with all its glittering vagneness and uncertainty, to inflame the fastidious imagination of the East. Therefore, all the Powers, with one accord, delenegotiations with Turkey and the composition of the note to be presented at Constantinople demanding the necessary reforms. The note was presented, and though Turkey protested she had to submit under pressure. Austria, thinking that the general application of the complex projects would be extremely cult of realization, proposed to restrict their operation to the solution of the Herzogovina question. A State such as Austria, which comprises such a diversity of character, speaks such a multitude of languages, professes religions opposite in nature—such as Magyar and Crost, German and Slav, Greek and Catholic-an immease mosaic by which public enmittes may be adjusted, an enormous organization which three governments and various assemblies, formed by of the Siav, uniting in the extreme east with barbarous regions like Turkey and in the extreme west with regions of the highest state of culture like Switzerland and Italy, may well maintain the inesti-mable equilibrium between contending forces and an artificial peace between contesting nationalities without resorting to expedients or bargains; may well find some happy formula which, while it may prolong the agony of the Turkish Empire and bring comparative calm, be only a passing truce even to enable us to tide over the present prostration and thereby greatly facilitate the creative labor of industry and science, enable us to establish sooper or later, the true level sunk deep in ignorance and the bright understanding of the great thinkers with the future open to them, ity condemns and repels with horror desperate and hopeless appeals to butchery and war, resolving that human affairs are soluble in justice by the conscience, regard to the eternal principles of right.

THE CONDITION OF ITALY.

In thus passing in review the nations of Europe we are detained for a few moments in the presence of linly, which continues by degrees to recover her former influence in Europa. How Italy has discomfited those false prophets who hold her artistic temperament to be incompatible with all government on the one hand and contrary to emancipation on the other!

Artistic temperaments should be discarded completely, according to those was augur so badly for this nation.

THE CHIEF TALENT of Italy consists in comprehending the contradictions created by her history, which have been handed down for centuries, which have been made as congenitals to her complexion, and once acquainted with them she set to work to harmonize or make them coexistent without producing those violent concussions which lead to death, or when not to this to the weakening and exhausting of nations. Her talent has the virtue of seeing far and seeing much at the same time. Thus she saw that her autonomy and independence would be, above all, by the nature of things and the letter of treaties, international questions, and she herself has elevated her interior independence to an international question with all the supreme intelligence of Cavour She saw that the nationalities of Europe, governed by their tribunes, and in order to be so attended she has placed the Phrygian cap of her Republic beneath the golden crown of Savoy. She saw that the old engine of the monarchy required the steam of new ideas to move it forward, and has placed in H, with the thought CONTEMPLATING ROME AND CATROLICISM

She saw she could not renounce Rome as a capital where the nerves of the nation should be united and concentrated; and, while in time she might renounce the Pontificate because the Pontificate guarded the titles to its former supremacy over nations, she inwhich she has been able to preserve to her capits and to Italy a most perfect peace. Thus, when she feet the glorious Eternal City all entire, with its rotundas, whose defiles of rains and sepulchres arose like mystic temples in influite space, involuntarily her eyes and her attention were drawn upon three points-upon the immense Vatican, shining like bur residence of the Pope; upon the Quirinal, with its obelisks and the Colossus at its entrance, the residence of the King; upon the wide-stretching vilias of the ed in cypress and pine, hidden between the fragments of the aqueducts and among the remains And to see these three powerful rivals—the power of the Church, the power of the monarchy and the power of the democracy-living in unity, because peace between the three appears momentarily necessary in order to found and conserve a free country, which only yesterday was in slavery, seems like a dream, seems like a reconclination of Guelphs and Ghibellines out of love for Italy. The Pontificate and Shibellines out of love for Italy. The Pontificate
and the Empire unite and forget their quarrels in proposing to zerve Italy, the monarchy and the tribune,
deposing part of their zeal, this and that part of their
authority in favor of the country, as if all, persecutors
and persecuted, oppressors and oppressed, had called a
truce to their historic rancors in order to resuscitate
the Lazarus of the peoples like a miracle of liberty,
which gives to the history of our century the brilliancy
of the lecend and the mean. To

## IN THE SAHARA.

The Largeau Expedition at the Oasis City.

Treachery and Inconsistency of the Ghadamese.

A ROBBER BATTLE

A Governor's Makeshift Force Chasing the Touat Thieves.

Desperate Fighting Between the Souafa and Razi.

A TERRIFIC DUEL.

GRADAMES, Feb. 18, 1870.

We leave Ghadames to-morrow. During the last few days events have so multiplied around us that I hasten to send you a few rapid sketches by an express courier, or mehari mail carrier, who will arrive at Buskra some afteen days before us. I avail myself of this opportunity to give you a few details as to the result of our expedition hither, and also to advise you of a terribio robber fight which has just taken place between Rhit and this city, in which our chief guide, the leading khebir of the tribe of Rebala was, unfortunately killed. In my letter of January 10 I expressed the hope that we should take back with us to Algeria a caravan of Ghadamese merchants. But the late events have not benefited us in this respect, and to-morrow we shall retake the dreary route through the everlasting sands of the Erg to the Souf. The Ghadamese did not care to come with us; but I will add that at the last moment we even opposed the journey, the reasons for which will be readily seen by the incidents connected with the attack of the reasons.

The object of the expedition is obtained, neverthe-ces, as I will show. It is, perhaps, just to state that and failure must have followed but for the tenacity of our explorer, who determined not to leave minute information concerning every resource likely to for opening up commercial relations with the Soudan from this time forward. Some time after our arrival here, and after we had been promised that severa ants had decided to follow us-promises made to us by the Governor himself-we discovered that we were the objects of a continual intrigue, by no means assur ing to our personal safety, and especially serious with reference to the results of the expedition From evidences of great consideration, followed by en couraging promises, we all at once noticed a marked reserve on the part of our hosts, followed by a most confirmed by a statement from one of the Khars, El-Hadj-Attija, to the effect that the Ghadamese feared they would not be well received in Algeria; that, more-over, no French merchant had accompanied us; that the route to the Souf was not safe; that water was short among the hills, and many other objections were made which he said they had forgotten at first, but all of which we very easily answered; and finally we learned that the Ghadamèse—who are imbued with an enterprising commercial spirit, but chicken-hearted

CENSURED BY THE GOVERNMENT

of Tripoli if they should enter into commercial relations with us. To this argument, which seemed to us unworthy of a reply, the Kalmakam himself replied, protesting that his government had the best of intentions in favoring commerce with France. The Pacha of Tripoli himself had come to Ghadamës to take cognisance of the meeting between Mr. Largeau and the Medjeles the year provious, and he raised no objection whatever to the opening of commercial relations between the casis and Algeria. And, added the Kalmakam, the resources centred at Ghadamës are quite sufficient to meet all their demands without interfering in any way with Tripolitan trade; in case commercial relations with Algeria should assume wide proportions, it would simply necessitate the removal by his government of the Custom House from Tripoli to Ghadamës, thereby inducing a new order of things and adding immencely to the commercial prosperity of the provinces of the Sultan. This was another quietus to the Ghadames.

But what were we to do? We could not leave th cases without thoroughly canvassing the intentions of the people, and therefore decided to remain until we had completely mastered the situation. Days
passed by. We employed our leisure hours
in looking about the city and exploring
the environs. I busied myself more especially in collecting documents and information generally upon the history of the city, its origin and mesent status, the manners and habits of the people, and, above all, as to their commercial relations with the Soudan—matters which I shall communicate in a subsequent letter. We entered into the most amiable one with the tribes of Touareg, camped without the walls of the city. These tribes, the faithful ob servers of the treaty of peace entered into between hem and the government of Algeria through the French mission sent to Ghadamès in 1862, assured us of their protection in case we should desire to peneof their chiefs toward us led to some coolness on the part of the Ghadamese. The discontent of the latter fourreg, these masters of the desert, escort the Ghadamose caravans and protect them against the attacks of lunderers through all the countries which skirt the had been engendered on our account. I pass over these calumnies and bickerings here, however, as I intend to make them the subject of a special report to the gov.
ernment at Algeria. I may add that they, nevertheless, elped us to realize the true condition of affairs, clearly howing us the importance of future commerce, opendiate good results. In a word, we uncovered the whole intrigue—carried on for the most part by a few black til after our arrival at Algiera.

John Bull. Controls The Soldan Frade.

In the meanwhile, I am convinced personally that the easis of Ghadamés is now the central point to which are sent all the products of the Soudan through Rhat and Afa-Calah. From Ghadamés the caravans go to Tripoli, and after having passed through the hands of brokers, who are mostly flebrews, the goods are sent to English markets by way of Malta, and after passing again through the hands of English brokers pass to France and elsewhere. From Ain-Calah, however, a few caravans are sent to Tangiers, the goods from which also pass into the English markets by way of Gibraltar. From the Soudan to Rhat or Ain-Calah, from these two places to Ghadamés, from Ghadamés to Tripoli, from Tripoli to Malta, from Malta to England and from England to France—here you have six intermediary stations before the products of the Soudan reach France. It may be rendily understood that this system of exchange is extremely onerous, and the Anglish themselves ought to discover that it is by no means "practical" for us, whose Algerian Sahara extends from Morocce to the gates of Ghadamés, to thus parmit a continuance of the diversion of commerce which prevents the complete development of Aignera. The merchandise of the Soudan, such as ivory, estrick feathers and hides (superior to those of Morocco), or "filialis," as they are called, and which would suffice for the whole of European consumption, now have to pass through six or seven intermediary hands before reaching French markets. From this it can be underested by farmit as the particle of production are made to apmen of a free markets. From this it can be underested at the particle of consumption, and will

also explain why a single estrich plame in the hat of a lady of fashion costs from \$12 to \$20 in Paris. But in reality need it be so? If this state of things is to continue Prance ought at least to be able to share the profits with her English neighbors.

If the Sahara belonged to the English they would long since have had roads throughout the Soudan, and they are now organizing an expedition with the object of ascertaining whether it be possible to open an internal lake in the enormous bollow comprised between the northwest portion of the Sahara and to the weet of the plateaux of Mourzouk and Asben. This immense basin extends on one side from the fertile regions of Infilaht and Touât to the southern limits of the Atlas Isle—a very short distance from Timbactoo—and on the other side from Trouza and Assound to the west as far as the highlands of Maghter and Adirer, near the shores of the Atlantic, which could be connected with the Atlantic by means of a canal running through to the ocean opposite the Canary Islands. I would wager that this new internal sea and grand key to the beart of Africa, which would have immense and important commercial results for England, tending to open new sources of trade among the grouped kingdoms which now line the high Niger and extend back as far as Lake Tchad—when these regions shall have been improved and are no longer separated from European civilization by the barriers of the Kong Mountains and the shallow waters of the Niger, which are only navigable for a very short distance—I would wager, I repeat, that a gigautic scheme will already be in process of realization before the members of the Chamber of Commerce of Marseilles will think of asking whether this interior sea is a "healthful" work for the future commerce of our African colony.

We were unable to get one of the leading merchants to accompany us. Three had already promised to load thirty camels for us, when the news came of the stampede, by a band of robbers, in the hills on the Ouargharoute. This completely settled them. Two of the three immediately withdrew from the enterprise, and the third, though still willing to risk it, had too small a quantity of goods to pay the expenses of a trip to Algiers. Hence Mr. Largeau announced that we must make preparations for an immediate return. Not having sufficient force now to go down to Rhât we had decided to re-outer the Souf by descending from the south, so as to enable our explorer to complete his exploration of Igharghar, which he began last year, when the fight occurred which resulted in the death of our guide. The consequence of this unhappy incident was to exhibit the very small item of confidence which should ever be placed in the averments of the Ghadamèse, and to demonstrate to us, moreover, though we might go over to their city, that they would not recognize any obligation compelling them to risk their precious necks by

THREATS AGAINST THE PRESCH.

We intended to leave Ghadamès on Fobruary 7, but for some days we had heard the most curious rumors circulated about us, tending to delay us. A negross said to our servant All, "How can you live here with these Frenchmen? If you don't wish to die with them leave their service, for Oson-Said is waiting for them in the hills with his band of robbers, and be will abutcher them like dogs." All, who is prudence itself, simply repited that as we should return by way of Tripoli Oson-Said and his cutthroats would have to wait a long time. I remember, in this connection, that Oson is the murderer of Dourneaux Duperré and also of Joubert. He is known as one of the revolted Châmba, who has sworn "death to the French," and continually rambles in the region of the hills and on the roads between Rhât and Ghadamès, accompanied by a few of the robal Châmba, some of the people of Touat and Touarga, all desperate robbers and assassina. It was this same rascal who, after having stabbed Duperré and Loubert, wrote to the Governor of Ghadamès and throatened to overrun the whole casis if he ever dared to entertain any more Frenchmen.

A CARAYAN ATTACERD AND PLUNDRIED.

Two days before our intended date of departure some slaves whe were feeding our camels among the hills beard the report of firearms in the direction of Ouargia. They counted soven shots at first, then twelve. The departure of several Châsmba hunters, friends of ours, the night previous, led us to suppose that they had really come across robbers—perhaps those of Oson-Sald. On the evening preceding the day fixed for our departure the Kaimakam came to us and excitedly announced that a caravan of 103 camels, loaded with ivory, estrich teathers, incense and hides, had been attacked by the rescurs, that the cameliers had taken to flight and that the two Touareg soldiers deputed to guard the caravan had had to good their medar almost to death in order to prevent being overtaken and slain by the robbers.

ng to start the same evening, the chief of our cam iers, Bei-Kacem, came to apprise us that the Governor had received full details concerning the attack and now asked our authorization to place our So eighteen in all. Two of these were of the Tourt, eight Chamba and eight Tourreg from Hoggar. "Oson and Joubert!" We seized our carbines and ran out to join the Kalmakam, whom we found with all our Souafa at the gate of the city. The Governor now explained that they were not commanded by Oson, but by one Modani, another bindit, still more ferocious than Oson, who is his hrother. We asked him how many men he had at his disposal? The unhapp Governor turned and pointed to ten men, the sole gar rison of Ghadamès (though he has been promised fift for over a year by the government), and he could allowed him. Tacre was, however, the Chiambi Moula el-Arbl, who lived at Ghadames, a most determine withal. He had also about fifteen Attriya (Ghadamès of mixed blood), but he counted most upon our Sousia has for the Ghadamèse, they never fought, and they had already hid all the fleet animals, or mehars, with which they might overtake the razi. Our Souata who are as daring in hunting a man as chasing a gazelle, only asked to be allowed to give chase. Be-holding the cowardice of his officials, the Kalmakam re-entered the city and compelled them to come forth, if for nothing else, at least to salute him.

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We soon beheld one of the most funny spectacles in the world. Ghadamèse, to the number of about 400, robed in the garments and bolts of war, jumbled forth towards the gate, their long barrelled rifles in hand, and took positions under the wall with all that patriarchal mystery so peculiar to these old fogies, and significantly murmuring "bush," "silence," "speak low," &c. From the terraces of the house we could hear the women tittering the you-you. Standing quietly by the side of a little mound, we watched all this with a great deal of curiosity, and began to think that these brave warriors might stand fire after all, when all at once they wheeled round anddenly and prudently ensconced themselves in the coulisse within the walls, resting there apparently with the greatest tranquility.

THE CHASE AFTER THE ROBBER

now energetically opposed our departure in accordance with our arrangements already made, and announced, moreover, that it would be impossible to follow the pursuing force as we were not mounted. "We will follow on foot, then," we said. About six or seven miles from the oasis the Governor declared that if we inslated on following he would go back himself. He also affirmed, as did also our Souafa, that he would be compelled to leave us on the road, for before the end of the day we should be thoroughly wern out. In the

also our Souafa, that he would be compelled to leave us on the road, for before the end of the day we should be thoroughly worn out. In the presence of the material impossibility of going further we reluctantly parted from the little troop, after having handed our carbines and revolvers to our henters, recommending them to take advantage of the enemy by firing at a distance, and especially to guard against all surprise. An hour later this little band had disappeared beyond the horizon of the red Hamada.

I now proceed to give the details of this man hunt, which will be ample to give an idea of fights in the desert. The Goum (or Mocking corps), commanced by the Kalmakas, an energetic and intelligent Turk, was composed of nine Souafa, among whom were Haoun, our khebir, and Bel-Kacem, the chief of our camellers, all mounted on their camels, of which two were mehars; four cavalrymen, the Chiambi Moula-el-Arbi, three regular soldiers of the line, a negro guide and a servant of the Governor, mounted on camela, and afteen Attrija, some camel tenders and bearers of water and provisions.

Starting from the easis at midday on Mosday the troups did not halt till midnight, when they tooke poor repast at a place called Marekeem. At daylight they started again. At ten o'clock the same morning our Souafa discovered the traces of the robbers, which were two or three days old. They followed these tracks and soon recognized the tracks of the caravan tha thad been stampeded, showing that the rast, who were also going toward Rhas, had turned the caravan by stopping the road. Purther on they found tusks of twory and empty bags which the razi had thrown away on the road so as not to be loo much emburrassed. They followed the track at a slow trot, and at night camped near the wells of Bir-Madin, which are shaded with rolly trees.

on Wednesday morning seven of the men on foot,"
two horsemen and several porter camels, who were too
much fatigued to continue the chase, were sent back to
Ghadames by the Kalmakam, who, fearing to be away
too long, gave them an order to have some provisions
and water sent to him. At midnight Wednesday the
seoun halted at a place called Garat-Sedu. Thursday
morning they started again. At midday they arrived as
Bir-Nazar, where they left five camels and ten men,
who were also placed hers de marche. After waiting
just long enough to drink a little water they started off
again.

At four o'clock the band turned into a little valley studded with retem, designated Takem by the guida. Here the Governor, three horsemen and four men on foot had to 'haal oft' in turn, completely exhausted. The Governor requested our Souafa to discontinue the chase, fearing that they would not be able to overtake the robbers except by going a tremendous distance. Our intrepid follows declared that the tracks were too frash to permit of a doubt as to their shortly overtaking the bandits, and stated that they would continue the hunt. The Kalmakam then retreated to Bir-Nazar, accompanied by those who had halted with him, to await the return of the Souafa. The pursoing band was now reduced to the negro guide, Moul-el-Arbi, our nine Souafa and one soldier, a plucky fellow, who ran all the time on foot at the heels of the camela. This valiant little company continued to advance. The chase was becoming terribly fatigning. The whole of the night they ran forward with the hope of coming up with the onemy by daybreak.

THE ROBERS CAUGHT—A BLOODY BATTLE.

This hope was realized, for early on Friday morning they discovered the enemy in the distance, and urged their camels on at greater speed. The bandits also saw they were pursued, and, mounting their fastest animals, or mebars, drew up in line and awaited the attack. About 350 yards from the razi our man Messaoud, one of the best hunters of the Souf, discharged two shots from the splendid Winchester rife which Mr. Fancheaux had lent him, killing a camel with each shot. At the same distance our chief camelier; Bel-kacem, killed a man with the Martini belonging to our explorer. Up went Haoun, our khebir, and he soon despatched another with my Remington. The enemy, being perfectly stapeded, apparently, by the onslaught made at a distance so far beyond the capacity of their arms, rendering a return fire on their part impossible, turned and fied precipitately. It was at this junction that our unhappy guide, Haoun, Messaoud and the Châambi Mouiz-ei-Arbi, who had rejoined them, became somewhat excited, and, fearing that the robbers were about to escape them, committed the great imprudence of remounting their mehara and rushing headiong siter the rascals, without asking themselves whether the sudden dight was not, after all, a ruse. They reached the edge of a ravine, and looking down, discovered the razi waiting for them, receiving our Souafa with a general fire, but, fortunately, their shots all fell short. Instead of waiting for a concentrated attack by their whole force, these three men, with unheard of courage, rushed to attack: the enemy, who numbered about diffeen.

THE FIGHT NOW EKCARE FRANFUL,

indescribable. I will attempt to follow Messouad as he excitedly relates the details. On getting into close quarters a most singular duel occurred between Modaui, the robber chief, and the Chhambi Moula. "I have been looking for you this long time, you villanous cutthroat," cried Moula. "And I have been also looking,"—said Modani, raising his long rifle into position; but before he could complete his sentence and fire Moula had drawn one of our buffalo pistols and stretched him dead on the sand. Immediately afterward, however, one of Modani's band took revenge for the death of his chief by shooting Moula through the body and killing him. While this bloody duel was being fought Messaoud had killed one robber and wounded two others. Seizing then, his revolver he resolved to sell his life as dearly as possible, when he heard Haoun calling to him, who, after having emptied his carbine, was set upon and sabred to death by several of the Touaregs. He was about to rush to his assistance, when he also was set upon and had to retreat a few steps in order to avoid being surrounded as Haoun had been. Terrified by the rapid shots from his carbine, however, the Touareg prudently withdrew and left him master of the situation. He then went over toward Haoun, but was mot by another of the Souafa, named Hamed Sala, whe told him that Haoun was already dead, and that if they remained a moment longer they would all be massacred. Both then went back and joined their tired companions, a little distance of, as their fatigued camels had not been able to follow them.

This terrible rencontre thus proved fatal to two on our side, but their death was well averaged by the despatch of the robber chief, Modani. Four other handits fell dead in the valley, and our Sonafa claim that six more of their number are badly wounded. In fact the next were completed routed, and it is probable that it will take them a long time before they can organize again sufficiently to prove a terrer to caravana. The place where the battle occurred is about a nine days journey for a lightly laden caravan from Ghadamès, that is to say, about eightly leagues from the onsia. During the same night the Sonafa rajoined the Kalmakam and his companions at Bir-Nazar, where they arrived thoroughly "done up," their leet bleeding from the brambles and thorns of the hamada, and almost dying of hunger.

On the Wednesday following the whole of the fighting and the non-combating parts of the pursuing band returned to Ghadames, and the Governor, who appeared nettied, censured the people for not sending him the provisions he ordered. On Thursday morning our explorer addressed a letter to the people of Ghadames, justly demanding an indemnity for the loss of Haoun in behalf of his three children, and also asking for a contribution for our Souafa. Notwithstanding all our efforts, which were ably seconded by the Governor, our requests were utterly disregarded. A special report of this affair is sent by the courior carrying this letter to the Governor General of Algeria. While we were waiting for justice our Souafa wanted to take the law into their own hands and stampede several camels belonging to the Ghadamese, and nothing but the stern authority of Mr. Largeau prevented another conflict.

We shall return alone now, but I cannot give any details of the new plan of Mesera Largesu and Say for opening the next season, but like them, and notwithstanding the ill will of the inhabitants of Ghadames, I may state that since my entry into the Desert of Sahara I have observed an immense extension of the prestige of France, in the sympathy of the Touareg for us and also in the general desire of all the Saharans, including the Turks, to see us occupy the Touat, the last refuge of the banditti forming the razi.

We know, moreover, that the occupation of Rhât by Tripoli last year, which was regretted as a consequence of the last journey of Mr. Largeau, will not only open the gates of that city to us, though they were closed to Duveyrier, but also that that occupation will contribute vastly to the accompilehment of new schemes and permit us to send there a caravan of Souafa direct next winter. The plundering bands of Tunisians and Tripolitans have already disappeared. Only those of the Touat now remain, to which the eightoen forming Modani's band, who killed our khebir and Moultiel-

PERFARING FOR ANOTHER ATTACE.

Modant's brother Owen is waiting for us, we are told, but we doubt if he would venture to attack us. We shall have with us our daring Souafa, who have been joined by all those recontly arrived at Ghadambs and who otherwise would go book in small companies. We shall be able to receive the cutthroats with some thirty good hunters, besides the power vested in our Winchesters, &c. Our intention is to return by way of Bir-Beressof and thence by the same road we came. We expect to reach Biskra on the 20th of March. I shall not publish the definite results of this expedition and give details as to the now explorations planned by Mosara.